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continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/159,815, filed on November 30, 1993, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,433,700, which is a U.S. counterpart of Australian Patent Application No. PL 6170, filed December 3, 1992. This application is also a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/281, 962, filed July 28, 1994, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of Application Serial No. 08/163,241, filed December 6, 1993, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,571,215, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/023,778, filed February 22, 1993, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,452,733. This application is also a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent application Serial No. 08/281,981, filed July 28, 1994, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,735,290, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/023,778, filed February 22, 1993, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,452,733. This application is also a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/213,760, filed March 16, 1994, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,458,574. The complete disclosures of all of the aforementioned related U.S. Patent Applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference for all purposes. 1 2

In the claims:

Please cancel claim 120, amend claim 113 and add claims 126-133 as follows:

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113. A method of positioning a catheter in a patient's ascending aorta between the patient's coronary ostia and the patient's brachiocephalic artery, comprising:
introducing a distal end of a shaft of an aortic catheter into a blood vessel downstream of the patient's ascending aorta, the shaft comprising an inner tubular member within an outer tubular member, the inner tubular member extending at least to the distal end of the outer tubular member;
transluminally positioning the shaft so that the distal end of the shaft is in the ascending aorta and an expandable occluding member attached to the shaft near the distal end is disposed between the coronary ostia and the brachiocephalic artery; and
expanding the occluding member within the ascending aorta to prevent migration of the occluding member into the aortic root.
126. The method of claim 113, wherein the expanding step comprises expanding the occluding member such that the passage of debris generated during a cardiovascular procedure is precluded by the occluding member.
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9 127. The method of claim 113, wherein the expanding step comprises expanding the occluding member to a pressure sufficient to substantially prevent blood from passing by the occluding member and into the aortic root.

10 128. The method of claim 113, wherein the expanding step comprises expanding the occluding member to a pressure sufficient to block blood flow between the coronary ostia and the brachiocephalic artery.

11 129. A method of positioning a catheter in a patient's ascending aorta between the patient's coronary ostia and the patient's brachiocephalic artery,

introducing a distal end of a shaft of an aortic catheter into a blood vessel downstream of the patient's ascending aorta, the shaft comprising an inner tubular member within an outer tubular member;

C3 cont. transluminally positioning the shaft so that the distal end of the shaft is in the ascending aorta and an expandable occluding member, having a distal end attached to the inner tubular member and a proximal end attached to the outer tubular member, is disposed between the coronary ostia and the brachiocephalic artery; and

expanding the occluding member within the ascending aorta to block blood flow therethrough by passing an inflation fluid through a flow passage between the inner tubular member and the outer tubular member.

12 130. A method of positioning a catheter in a patient's ascending aorta between the patient's coronary ostia and the patient's brachiocephalic artery:

providing an aortic catheter having a shaft comprising an inner tubular member within an outer tubular member and an expandable occluding member attached to the shaft near the distal end thereof;

withdrawing the outer tubular member proximally with respect to the inner tubular member to reduce the profile of the occluding member on the shaft of the aortic catheter;

introducing the distal end of the shaft into a blood vessel downstream of the patient's ascending aorta;

transluminally positioning the shaft so that the distal end of the shaft is in the ascending aorta and the expandable occluding member is disposed between the coronary ostia and the brachiocephalic artery; and

expanding the occluding member within the ascending aorta to block blood flow therethrough.

1.3 131. A method of positioning a catheter in a patient's ascending aorta between the patient's coronary ostia and the patient's brachiocephalic artery:

providing an aortic catheter having a shaft comprising an inner tubular member within an outer tubular member and an expandable occluding member attached to the shaft near the distal end thereof;

rotating the outer tubular member with respect to the inner tubular member to reduce the profile of the occluding member on the shaft of the aortic catheter;

introducing the distal end of the shaft into a blood vessel downstream of the patient's ascending aorta;

transluminally positioning the shaft so that the distal end of the shaft is in the ascending aorta and the occluding member is disposed between the coronary ostia and the brachiocephalic artery; and

expanding the occluding member within the ascending aorta to block blood flow therethrough.

C 314 132. A method of positioning a catheter in a patient's ascending aorta between the patient's coronary ostia and the patient's brachiocephalic artery

Cond introducing a distal end of a shaft of an aortic catheter into a blood vessel downstream of the patient's ascending aorta, the shaft comprising an inner tubular member within an outer tubular member;

transluminally positioning the shaft so that the distal end of the shaft is in the ascending aorta and an expandable occluding member attached to the shaft near the distal end is disposed between the coronary ostia and the brachiocephalic artery;

expanding the occluding member within the ascending aorta to block blood flow therethrough; and

measuring the aortic pressure distal to the occluding member.

15 133. The method of claim 132 wherein the step of measuring aortic pressure distal to the occluding member comprises measuring the aortic pressure with a pressure transducer positioned near the distal end of the shaft.